

You Can't Win

by TheStationmaster

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Summary: Duke proves he still has a lot of life left in him.

You Can't Win

****Another Thomas rewrite, this time it's "You Can't Win" from Season 4, with added lines by tate310. Enjoy and comment.****

Duke is the hero of all the engines on Sodor. He was brave and really useful.

But let me tell you another story about Duke. This happened long ago, when Peter Sam was called Stewart, and Sir Handel was called Falcon.

Every year, many people from far away lands came to see the magical mountains and lakes, and mostly Duke.

Duke always pulled his train full of passengers, even on days when he didn't feel well.

"_I don't want to disappoint my friends." he always said._

Every morning he took his passengers up the line, and took them wherever they wanted.

Duke always reminded his passengers to be ready when he came back, or else they would miss their boat back home.

One day, Duke didn't feel well, He was short of steam, and needed to rest.

His driver and fireman had just finished inspecting him, when Stewart bustled in.

"_Hello Granpuff!" he teased. "Are you short of puff!"_

"_Not at all!" assured Duke._

"_You know, you're getting old. We must take care of you when you get old!"_

Duke crossly puffed away.

Duke wasn't cross for long. It was a lovely evening, and Duke was excited to be talking all the passengers.

"_I have plenty of steam to make it!" hummed Duke. "We'll be up the hill in a couple of puffs!"_

But soon Duke realized that he wouldn't be able to make up the hill.

"_It's too hard, it's too hard!" he croaked. "But I'll manage!"_

At last they reached the station.

Duke's driver inspected him, as the passengers watched anxiously.

"_Duke's fine, but he might get you all to the harbor a couple of minutes late. Two engines are coming to help. You'll still catch your boat on time."_

Falcon coupled up in front of Duke.

"_Poor old Granpuff, what a shame!" _

Stewart was soon coupled up behind Duke.

"_Are you ready?" whistled Falcon._

"Yes I am!" replied Stewart.

And soon they were on their way!

When they reached the next station, the two engines split up.

Falcon took Duke's passengers to the boat, and Stewart took Falcon's train, with Duke coupled behind.

"_Fancy me rescuing Grandpuff!" boasted Stewart. "This is the day, this is the day! What a poor old engine!"_

But Duke had plenty of steam left in him, even though he sounded worse than ever.

Soon, they reached the top of the hill.

Duke began puffing and roaring as if he was pulling a whole train.

_The noise echoed everywhere!

>

When they reached the last station, everyone clapped and cheered for Duke!

"_It's no good Stewart! You can't win!" said Duke._

Duke was the happiest engine of all!

End
file.